

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 17371 301440Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 COME-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 IGA-02 AID-05 FDRE-00

NEAE-00 EB-07 /064 W

----- 061662

O R 301410Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3086

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 17371

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN IN US

SUBJECT: INDIAN MINE DISASTER: INFORMATION REPORT

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY WE HAVE ACCUMULATED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MINE DISASTER AND RELIEF MEASURES FROM OFFICIALS OF THE GOI, AND PRESS TICKERS. THIS MESSAGE ROUNDS UP WHAT MORE WE KNOW ABOUT THE SITUATION. WE CAUTION THE READER THAT THERE IS MUCH CONFUSION ABOUT WHAT IS ACTUALLY GOING ON AND MANY CONTRADICTIONARY REPORTS.

2. ACCORDING TO LABOR SECRETARY DUBE, WHO IS INVOLVED IN MANAGEMENT OF THE PROBLEM, THERE ARE CURRENTLY ONLY THREE PUMPS PULLING ABOUT 1,000 GALLONS PER MINUTE IN OPERATION AND SIX OTHERS SCHEDULED TO BE PUT INTO OPERATION WITHIN THE NEXT TWENTYFOUR HOURS. EVEN WITH THESE PUMPS LITTLE HEADWAY IS ANTICIPATED IN REDUCING THE HEAD OF WATER WHICH IS ESTIMATED AT 110 MILLION GALLONS. JOINT SECRETARY ACHARYA OF THE MINES MINISTRY SAID THAT THERE REMAINS A
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NEW DE 17371 301440Z

QUESTION OF HOW MANY PUMPS CAN BE DEPLOYED EFFECTIVELY: ONE

ESTIMATE IS AS LOW AS TEN.

3. THE PRESS TICKERS REPORT THAT MINES SECRETARY CHARI HAS CATEGORICALLY RULED OUT ANY HOPE OF SURVIVAL OF THE 372 MINERS TRAPPED UNDER THE WATER. THE EMBASSY HAS QUESTIONED JOINT SECRETARY ACHARYA ABOUT THIS AND HE STATES HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THE STATEMENT IS ACCURATE. ACHARYA STATES THAT AS LONG AS THE WATER REMAINS IN THE MINE THEY CAN'T BE CERTAIN THAT THERE WILL NOT BE SURVIVORS AND HE CITES A PREVIOUS CASE IN WHICH SURVIVORS WERE LOCATED TEN DAYS AFTER THEY WERE TRAPPED. ANOTHER TICKER REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER GANDHI TOLD THE CONGRESS PARTY MEETINGS AT CHANDIGARH THAT THE GOI WOULD LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED TO SAVE THE MINERS. ALTHOUGH SHE DOUBTED THAT ANYONE COULD BE SAVED. SHE ANNOUNCED THAT "SOME PUMPS FROM THE US TO DRAIN OUT THE WATER HAD BEEN RECEIVED (SIC)".

4. PRESS TICKERS HAVE REPORTED THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS OFFERED "ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE" AND ITS COAL MINISTER IS LOOKING INTO REQUIREMENTS. POLAND AND FRANCE HAVE REPORTEDLY INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER THEY MIGHT HELP. THE EMBASSY ASKED JOINT SECRETARY ACHARYA WHERE HELP FROM OTHER NATIONS STOOD. HE REPLIED THAT THE GOI IS TRYING TO CHECK ON WHAT SORTS OF EQUIPMENT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES NO OTHER COUNTRY HAS MOVED SO FAR AS THE US AND NO ASSISTANCE IS SO SPECIFIC OR AS FAR ALONG.

5. WE CONCLUDE FROM THIS COMPENDIUM THAT THERE REMAINS EVERY REASON FOR THE USG TO PROCEED WITH SPEED IN ITS ASSISTANCE EFFORT.

6. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE EMBASSY IS AVOIDING COMMENT TO THE PRESS UNTIL WE ARE ASSURED THAT PUMPS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO INDIA.SAXBE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OCCUPATIONAL ACCIDENTS, MINING INDUSTRY, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE17371
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750449-1234
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975124/aaaaadmktel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN MINE DISASTER: INFORMATION REPORT
TAGS: OGEN, ELAB, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006